

to complete the quota will, doubtless, soon be forthcoming. Two of the clerks will leave Washington to enter the service elsewhere.

#### RANKS OF ISSUE IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The following are the only regular banks of issue in the District of Columbia, and whose notes are received as bankable, namely: The Bank of the Metropolis, the Bank of Washington, the Patriotic Bank of Washington, the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, and the Bank of Commerce of Georgetown. This information is given for the protection of the distant public.

#### DEAD LETTERS.

An act of Congress, approved Jan. 21, 1862, authorized the Postmaster-General to return all dead letters, "except those containing circulars and other worthless matter, to their writers, whenever their names can be ascertained," and "to employ for that purpose not exceeding twenty-five additional clerks, at an average salary of \$800 per annum, provided that he is satisfied that the receipts for dead-letter postage will amount to a sum sufficient to pay the aggregate compensation of the said clerks."

Under the provisions of this act, the whole number of dead letters not containing valuable inclosures sent out within six months ending Aug. 1, were 700.

Of these, 2245 were returned because not called for.

2300 were returned because twice moved away.

10,641 were returned because unknown or known to be dead.

309 were returned because of no address on the face of the letter.

291 were returned because of no name on the face of the letter.

263 were returned for various other causes—making the whole number returned 36,396—leaving the number actually delivered, 35,696.

The whole amount of postage received on these letters at six cents each..... \$2,266.62

Deficit expenses incurred in sending them out..... 16,686.60

And there remains a gross balance to the Department..... \$16,420.00

Out of this sum Postmasters will receive 30 per cent. for commissions on postage collected..... 4,921.15

Which would leave a net profit to the Department for six months of..... \$1,491.15

Being at the rate of nearly \$400 per annum.

In addition to the above, the following letters and packages were sent out to the writers or owners during the same period, viz.: 41,131 letters held for postage; 5,000 letters containing money to the value of \$3,635.64; 4,118 letters containing money and other valuable papers; 4,100 packages of jewelry and of drugstore articles; Total, 55,785, which, added to 47,673 ordinary dead letters, makes the entire number sent out for delivery to writers and owners, during one-half year, 103,458.

It was stated in the last annual report of the Postmaster-General that "about 2,500,000 dead letters are annually received, and that it was estimated that, excluding letters without the signature or address of the writer, and those containing circulars and manifestly worthless matter, 1,000,000, or three-tenths, could be returned to the post-office of the writer."

It appears, however, that during six months past out of 1,200,000 dead letters received by the Department, but 332,081, being less than one-half, were susceptible of such return.

The large number of letters written by persons in military service of the United States, whose locality could not be ascertained, contributed very considerably to this result; but the proportion of ordinary dead letters which can not or should not be restored to the writer is found to be much greater than was anticipated before making the experiment.

**GENERAL CASEY ASSIGNED TO DUTY.**

Brigadier-General Casey has been assigned to duty, relieving and encamping troops as they arrive in this city from the several States.

#### THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

Orders have been issued by the Secretary of War to the commanding officers of all arsenals and armories in the United States to administer the oath of allegiance to all employees under their command.

#### LEAGUE ISLAND.

The Secretary of the Navy has appointed, under the act of July 15, the following officers to constitute the board to examine and report on the relative fitness and capacity for use as a Government Navy-Yard of League Island, in the Delaware River, the harbor of New-London, Conn., and the waters of Narragansett Bay, Mass., via Iron Adm'ls Silas H. Stringham, Commodore Wm. H. Gardner and Capt. John Marston and S. J. Van Brunt, and also Prof. Baché and W. P. S. Sanger, esp. civil engineer. They meet at New-London Conn., on the 12th inst.

#### ORDERED TO DUTY.

Acting Assistant-Paymaster George C. Boardman has been ordered to the steamer Newark; Acting Assistant-Paymaster Samuel E. M. Varnell has been ordered to the gunboat Kineo; Acting Assistant-Paymaster W. E. Foster has been ordered to the steamer Clifton; Edward F. Clinton of Vermont has been appointed 3d Assistant Engineer, and ordered to the steamer Connecticut; Frederick D. Smart of New-York, 3d Assistant Engineer, ordered to the James River Florida.

#### SEARCH AFTER REBEL RECRUITS.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 1862.

Last night a party from the New-York Cavalry, under Lieut. Holmes, entered Rockville, Md., and, finding a man named Peleg Trull about leaving the village under suspicious circumstances, questioned him, but he would give no satisfactory account of himself nor take the oath of allegiance.

Trull attempted to shoot one of the guards in whose charge he was placed. He was brought to the Provost-Marshal's office this morning, and sent to the Old Capitol.

The guard also searched the house of W. V. Boule, and found 31 rifles and old muskets, with accoutrements, the plates bearing the Maryland coat-of-arms.

Evidence was obtained that there had been a Rebel recruiting office in the village, from which several recruits had been forwarded South.

#### WAR MEETING AT WHEELING—WESTERN VIRGINIA ARROUSED—SENATOR CAUDLE CALLED UPON TO RESIGN AND GO SOUTH.

Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune.

GARDEN CITY, Va., Wednesday, Aug. 13, 1862.

A large and animated war meeting, composed mainly of working men, was held last night in the hall of the Western Virginia Club, in the railroad depot at Wheeling. The discourse was addressed by Senator Sherman and the Hon. Mr. Brigham, both of Ohio, who made stirring addresses. These were followed by Senator Willey of Western Virginia, whose effort was characterized by great earnestness. At the close, Brig.-Gen. Kelley, who had come up from Cumberland, was vociferously called for, and at the conclusion of a few remarks, most modest, effective, and soldier-like, retired with cheer upon cheer for the Hero of Philippi. Gen. Kelley's popularity throughout this region is remarkable.

Resolutions looking to prompt and unanimous enlistment, and endorsing the new war policy of the President and the active course of Gov. Pierpont, were then eagerly adopted. The final resolution condemned and repudiated the course of Mr. John S. Caudle, and called upon him as a representative of his constituency to resign his position as United States Senator and retire within the Rebel lines. The meeting has given a decided impulse to recruiting to-day, and Western Virginia will probably make up her quota without a draft.

#### THE PENNSYLVANIA MILITIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 1862.

United States Marshal McIlroy was to-day commissioned by the Governor to make an enrollment of the militia of the State in the Eastern District, and the Hon. Alexander Marshall, Minister of the Western District, has made a similar order.

#### WAR MEETING AT PEEPSHILL.

SARATOGA, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 1862.

A tremendous war meeting is going on at the Lake Mohican House grounds. Gen. Monroe presides. The wildest enthusiasm prevails. Money is poured out without stint. The military officer is the only one sought after.

Yours,

WILCOX GIBBS.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune:

The Editor of your Washington correspond-

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Meanwhile, please correct in your next issue, and other-

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